

# Trinity Tempo

May 2017

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

These last three years have been such a blessing in my life. Trinity is a church that knows how to love and loves well. It is a church that cares for the lives of all they meet and are willing to do what is needed to share Jesus' love with those around them.

Trinity's life has been marked with discipleship training and spiritual growth through small groups, Bible study, Sunday school, worship, and

new member classes. We have cared for the youth in our midst by taking them on trips (both educational and for fun), through puppet shows, leadership positions in worship, engaging children sermons, having a Sunday school staff that loves (during Sunday and throughout the week) and many other ways.

We reach out to one another through meeting each other's needs as best we can. We do this by providing rides to hospital visits, the store, or any other place that might be needed. We send each other cards, make phone calls, pray for one another (both from a distance and in person). We are concerned with missions and community involvement. We provide for the local food bank, participate in community clean-up day, and have some funds to help others in emergency need. We also pray regularly for Trafford, its citizens, businesses, and its government. It is important to us that we continue to find ways to serve Trafford and its people.

Our motivation for doing this is because God loved us first and we know it. We know that our lives would be filled with less hope, less purpose, less love, less peace if not for the love of Jesus in it. We owe our lives to our savior and gladly want others to experience that same love we experience.

We are facing a challenge, though. I am trusting in the Lord about it and want each of you to be aware of this challenge. When Trinity made the switch from Pastor Jerry to me, it went from a clergy couple (which had financial support from Manor First) to independently supporting a pastor on their own. That meant health care costs more than doubled and costs for the parsonage are now being covered only by Trinity. This, coupled with normal cost of living increases such as bills and taxes and

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## We Pray for...

*(by Linda Yocum)*

With more than 5,000 years of history and arguably best known for the Great Wall, China is a country rich in culture, arts and science. Having a population of more than 1.3 billion, China is slightly smaller geographically than the United States with mountainous terrain and a diverse climate that ranges from subarctic to tropical.

After World War II, communists established a dictatorial social system, imposing strict controls over citizens and everyday life. In the past several decades, the country's leaders have focused on economic development.

In 2015 China surpassed the United States as the largest economy in the world. China is a world leader in agricultural (rice, wheat, peanuts, tea, fish, etc.) and industrial products (mining, iron, steel, textiles, fertilizers, etc.), exporting \$2.011 trillion. The country also imports \$1.437 trillion.

Despite this output, China's per capita income is below the world average. Living standards have



*Ancient and modern architecture coexist in China as shown by the Forbidden City, Beijing (above) and a crowded city street (below).*

improved for the Chinese along with greater personal choice, but 6.1% of the population is below the established poverty line (approximately \$400 US). The government retains tight political controls.

China faces ongoing challenges with air pollution, water shortages, water pollution, deforestation, and desertification.

The United Methodist Church has been committed to China for nearly 175 years. Currently, it has two primary partners in China: the China Christian Council (CCC) and The Amity Foundation.

The UM Board of Global Ministries supports theological education and lay training in China in partnership with CCC.



The United Methodist Church works with the Amity Foundation in the areas of education, health and rural development.

The Amity Foundation is a faith-based organization established in 1935 by Chinese Christians. The group's mission is to work for community development. Its programs cover education, health, disaster relief among others.

The Amity Foundation also operates the largest Bible-printing operation in the world, publishing in 90 languages.



United Methodist missionary Connie Wieck, with the General Board of Global Ministries service in China, works as a teacher under the guidance of the Amity Foundation. She is assigned to Luzhou Vocational and Technical College in Luzhou, Sichuan Province.

Other projects supported by the United Methodist Church include Happy Children's Home, an orphanage for children, and training of health care workers so they can provide rural Chinese women with access to health and education.

During May, please pray for the people of China and for the continued work of UMCOR, its missionaries and its partner organizations.

## Pastor's Letter

Continued from page 1

the loss of a fundraiser that raised a few thousand dollars a year, an aging building, and other factors, have put Trinity in a financial backslide. Our general fund has been losing money each month. We are struggling to have enough money to pay the expenses, bills and staff salaries. Finance and Council are working on a few ideas to help slow down the current trend. But they will need the cooperation of all of us in order to address this part of our journey together.

On the day we became members of the Church we all took a vow. All I ask is that we continue to live that vow each day of our lives. As members of the Church, we love Jesus with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. By doing that we will remind Trafford and each other that we are part of the Church and our trust lives in Jesus Christ.

PTL,

Pastor Justin

*China's landscape ranges from tropical to rocky (above left) to lush, fertile fields (below right).*





The Bible as the Word of God is an amazing gift that always speaks into our lives. Karl Barth has long felt that it is important, as people who live in the world, to be mindful of current events and what the Bible has to say about them.

Each of us has personal struggles, issues and concerns in our own lives that the Word of God has something to say about it. In the summer, Pastor Justin will preach from the Word of God based on *your concerns*, whether they be personal, cultural, national or international.

So, what topic or scripture would you like to hear about? There is a box in the vestibule where you can drop off your topics or scriptures for future sermons. There is no limit to the number of suggestions and you may submit them with or without your name.

Pastor Justin will go through your suggestions and prayerfully choose topics for the summer. A summer preaching schedule will be posted so you are aware of upcoming sermon topics.

The Word of God is a tremendous gift to each of us. We truly are not alone as we journey in this life. Jesus walks beside us and is active in our endeavors. Praise God!

## May Food Drive

Whether it's a temporary need or an ongoing one, many families in Trafford and Level Green rely on the food bank for nonperishable goods. People on the SNAP (food stamps program) cannot use this benefit to purchase household products, grooming and hygiene items or paper products. Some of these items are necessities.

Trinity will be collecting individually wrapped and 4-roll packs of toilet paper for the local food bank during May. Bring your donation in by Monday, May 15 and drop it in the box in the church vestibule.

## Helping Hands

*(by Thelma Johnson)*

Our last meeting was held on April 11 and it was our spring "Out to Lunch." This time we went to Lucci's. Fourteen members and guests attended. Pastor Judy said grace and everyone enjoyed the good food.

Our next meeting will be on May 9. Evelyn Felmlee will present the program; hostesses will be Evelyn Felmlee and Ora Mae Lovre. We will have a free-will offering and celebrate birthdays for April, May, June, July and August. This will be our last meeting until fall (September 12) which will be our second "Out to Lunch." Everyone is invited to join us in May. Don't forget to bring a sandwich; dessert will be provided. Enjoy summer.

## Your Anthem, Your Vote

The chancel choir is asking the congregation to choose the anthem for the May 28 service. Your song choices are:

- "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"
- "Days of Elijah"
- "Here I Am to Worship"
- "Sing Joy!" (from 2016 Christmas cantata)
- "Spirit's Comin'"

Boxes are set up in the back of the sanctuary, one box per anthem. Vote for your choice of song by placing a monetary donation in the appropriate box. (Donations benefit the campership fund.) Voting ends on Sunday, May 21.



## Strawberry Festival Moved to June!

*(by Jane Pogue)*

There will be a change for the Strawberry Festival this year. It will be held on Friday, June 9 from 4:30 – 7 p.m. Due to unpredictable weather, the price of strawberries and many other activities, it was decided to move the festival to June. We will see how it goes; we can always change it next year. So start saving those pennies, and look forward to our delicious food and a night of great fellowship!



## Email Address Change

Trinity's email provider is opting out of the email business so the church will need to change email providers during May. It may result in a new email address for the church. We will update you via the weekly bulletin, the June newsletter and the church website.

Please note that Pastor Judy's email address (jjudy79@gmail.com) will not change.

## Mother's Day Flowers

Once again, we want to proudly honor our wonderful mothers and present them with a plant during the church worship service. So please come to church on Mother's Day and let us recognize you for all you do.



## Special Sundays

### May 7, Golden Cross

On May 7 churches across the Western PA Conference will take a special offering for Golden Cross. Your gifts on this day support health and welfare ministries in the conference, specifically Wesbury Community in Meadville, Arbutus Park Manor in Johnstown, and United Methodist Services for the Aging in Mt. Lebanon.

All of these agencies offer independent living and continuing care for retirees.

## Graduate Sunday

We will be honoring our graduates on Sunday, June 4, 2017. So far we are aware of only one graduate: Robert Hainsey. More information about Robert will be in the June newsletter.

If you know of anyone who may be graduating from high school, college or other higher learning institution, please let Linda know in the church office. We don't want to miss anyone who has reached a special milestone.



# Joys and Concerns

Please keep Trinity family, friends and neighbors in your prayers.

## Pray for

Patty Aubele  
 Sharren Breakey  
 Renee Cappetta  
 Beecher and Kay Dale  
 Beverly Frank (friend of Beverly Piper)  
 David and Carol Grubb  
 Joan Hartley  
 Lena Jones (Angela Knopf's grandmother)  
 Jan Keefer  
 Paul Madaras (Mary Ann Casper's brother)  
 Judy Mason  
 Kris and Gary Peters  
 Joyce Rogers and her sister Carol Jean  
 Blanch Seiple (Peggy Whitfield's aunt)  
 Jean Swick  
 Bob and Patty Vaughn (friend of Donna Race)  
 Laurie Weisberg (friend of Shirley Fisher)  
 Peggy Whitfield



## Prayer Partners

New prayer partners will be chosen for June-July-August. If you would like to be a part of the prayer partners, sign up in the vestibule or contact the church office by Monday, May 28. Pastor Justin will be matching up people and posting the pairings by June 4.

Also take a moment and give thanks for friends and family who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries this month.

## May Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Hunter Wall  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Louise Redinger  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Carol Grubb  
 5<sup>th</sup> Jenna Nigro  
 6<sup>th</sup> Josie Nigro, Shawn Sciotti  
 9<sup>th</sup> Mary Thornton, Darlene Williams  
 11<sup>th</sup> Jane Pogue  
 15<sup>th</sup> Amy Keefer, Harry Little, Pat Puckey, Andie Ledger, Robert Conlogue  
 16<sup>th</sup> Nancy Harris  
 17<sup>th</sup> Lexi Fanty, Justin Ledger  
 18<sup>th</sup> Kate Ledger  
 19<sup>th</sup> Richard Yocum  
 20<sup>th</sup> Ora Mae Lovre, Gracie Stultz  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Louis Booher, Jill Miller  
 24<sup>th</sup> Megan Beam  
 27<sup>th</sup> Zachary Keefer  
 28<sup>th</sup> Evelyn Felmlee, Anne Robinson  
 29<sup>th</sup> John Graw  
 30<sup>th</sup> Roberta Cuttler, Alex Silowash, Nicole Vinsek  
 31<sup>st</sup> Les Race

## May Anniversaries

6<sup>th</sup> Alan and Sandy Yamamoto  
 17<sup>th</sup> Cliff and Evelyn Felmlee  
 18<sup>th</sup> Nick and Danielle Mallik  
 19<sup>th</sup> Gary and Kris Peters  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Ron and Dana Hainsey

## New Members

Welcome to new members received into Trinity during April: David Helfer, Ashley and Michael Kitchen, Ronda Powell, Noell Stulz, Mary Thornton and Dana Venturo.



# May Calendar

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	<b>1</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>2</b> 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study: Job	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>5</b> 5 p.m. Men's Woodwork Group	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Communion <b>Scrip Order Day</b> <i>Golden Cross Sunday</i>	<b>8</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>9</b> 11:30 a.m. Helping Hands Board Meet 12 p.m. Lunch/Meeting 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study: Job	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>12</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence)	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship/Healing Service <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>15</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>16</b> 6:30 p.m. Trustee Work Party 7:30 p.m. Ad- Council	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>19</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence) <b>Tempo Deadline</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship <b>Scrip Order Day</b>	<b>22</b> 6-7:30 p.m. Brownie Trp (Social Hall)	<b>23</b> 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study: Job	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:15 p.m. Choir	<b>26</b> 6 p.m. Craft Night (Judy residence)	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship	<b>29</b> Memorial Day (office closed)	<b>30</b> 7:15 p.m. Immersion Bible Study: Job	<b>31</b>			

## May Schedules

### Greeters

7<sup>th</sup> Ashley and Anna Kitchen  
 14<sup>th</sup> Les and Donna Race  
 21<sup>st</sup> Matt Knopf  
 28<sup>th</sup> Cliff and Evelyn Felmlee

### Liturgists

7<sup>th</sup> Sandy Chiappetta  
 14<sup>th</sup> Joanne Ondulich  
 21<sup>st</sup> Beverly Piper  
 28<sup>th</sup> Stephanie Judy

### Nursery

7<sup>th</sup> Jane Pogue and Noell Stultz  
 14<sup>th</sup> Lynn Antoon and Ashley Kitchen  
 21<sup>st</sup> Sandy Chiappetta and Christie Armao  
 28<sup>th</sup> Eileen Bentley and Renee Kociela

### Altar Flowers

7<sup>th</sup> Kris Peters  
 14<sup>th</sup> Joanne Ondulich  
 Sandy and Bruce Bergman (table)  
 21<sup>st</sup> Mallik Family  
 Cliff and Evelyn Felmlee (table)  
 28<sup>th</sup> Jeff, Matt and Tim Johnson

Trinity United Methodist Church  
407 Duquesne Avenue  
Trafford PA 15085

*Return service requested*

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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«nameline»  
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«city» «state» «zip»

Trinity United Methodist Church  
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.  
Healing Service: second Sunday of the month following the worship service

## Tempo Deadline

Articles for the  
June issue  
are due Friday,  
May 19, 2017.



## Prayer Board

As Trinity continues its year of prayer and fasting don't forget about the prayer board set up in the vestibule. If you have a prayer need, post it on the board using the slips of paper provided. If you want to pray for someone who posted a need, unpin the slip of paper and take it with you.